

## RECOUNTS

Pursuant to CRS 1-10.5-101(b); 1-11-102 A recount is required if the difference between the highest number of votes cast in that election contest and the next highest number of votes cast in that election contest is less than or equal to one-half of one percent of the highest votes cast in that election contest. If there is more than one person to be elected in a contest, a recount shall be held if the difference between the votes cast for the candidate who won the election with the least votes and the candidate who lost the election with the most votes is less than or equal to one-half of one percent of the votes cast for the candidate who won the election with the least votes. Recount occurs ONLY after the canvass board has certified the original vote count.

### EXAMPLE SCENARIOS

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#### *Scenario 1:*

##### **VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE:**

###### **Vote Totals From Judge's Abstracts**

<b>John Bailey</b>	<b>2000</b>
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<b>Sally Fields</b>	<b>1900</b>
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Calculate the difference between the votes.  $2000 - 1900 = 100$ . Now set up your equation.  $100 \leq .5\% \text{ of } 2000$ .  $100 \leq .5\% \times 2000 = 10$ . Is 100 less than or equal to 10? No. A recount of votes is not required.

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#### *Scenario 2:*

##### **VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE CANDIDATES:**

###### **Vote Totals From Judge's Abstracts**

<b>Bart Simpson</b>	<b>124</b>
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<b>Buffy Masterson</b>	<b>186</b>
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<b>Sandra Bullock</b>	<b>92 (Candidate with lowest number of winning votes)</b>
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<b>Eddie Murphy</b>	<b>90 (Candidate with highest number of losing votes)</b>
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Calculate the difference between the candidate with the lowest number of winning votes and the candidate with the highest number of losing votes.  $92 - 90 = 2$ . Now set up your equation.  $2 \leq .5\% \times 92$ .  $2 \leq .5\% \times 92 = .46$  Is 2 equal to or less than .46? No. A recount of votes is not required.

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From these examples, you can see that the numbers of votes cast would have to be considerable, and the margin of difference between the votes nominal, for the threat of a recount. Nonetheless, whenever a contest appears close, we recommend you do the calculations, to determine the need for a recount. Once it is determined that there is not a need for a recount, certify your election results to the division of local government.